

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**  
**Pursuant to P.A. 63 of 2011**  
**Section 305**  
**Prisoner Suicide Report**

This report provides information as requested in Section 305 of PA 63 of 2011 regarding prisoners who committed suicide during the previous calendar year (January 1-December 31, 2011). In order to protect confidentiality the data is being provided in summary narrative by section, rather than in table format specific to each prisoner. All unique identifiers have been removed.

(a) The prisoners' age, offense, sentence and admission date for six suicides occurring in 2011:

- Age - Prisoners' ages were 39 years, 47 years, 32 years, 33 years, 26 years and 26 years.
- Offense – Murder 1<sup>st</sup> degree, Larceny in a Building, Criminal Sexual Conduct 1<sup>st</sup> degree, Home Invasion 2<sup>nd</sup> degree with concurrent sentence for CSC 1<sup>st</sup> degree, Criminal Sexual Conduct 3<sup>rd</sup> degree person age 13-15 and Larceny from a person.
- Sentence – Life, 1-4 years, 10-30 years, 8-15 years and 10-30 years, 2 ½-15 years, 2 ½-10 years.
- Admission Dates - November 2007, December 2010, June 2001, April 2001, June 2007 and January 2008

(b) Each prisoner's facility and unit:

- Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility B-008B
- Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility 5-C-313L
- Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility F-22
- Macomb Correctional Facility 7-058-B
- Oaks Correctional Facility 5-222
- Gus Harrison Correctional Facility 1-206-B

(c) Circumstances:

- Six deaths were a result of hanging

(d) The dates of the suicide:

- The deaths occurred in February 2011, March 2011, May 2011, June 2011 and two deaths in August 2011.

(e) Whether the suicide occurred in a housing unit, a segregation unit, a mental health unit, or else where on the grounds of the facility:

- Three deaths occurred in general housing units, one death occurred in mental health RTP unit and two deaths occurred in segregation units.

(f) Whether the prisoner had been denied parole and the date of any denial:

- Of the six individuals, three were denied parole; one prisoner was denied nine months prior to the suicide, one prisoner was denied parole eight months prior to the suicide and one prisoner was denied parole six months prior to the suicide. Two prisoners were not eligible for parole consideration and one prisoner was deferred to D-47 status (special needs mental health).

(g) Whether the prisoner had received a mental health evaluation or assessment:

- One prisoner never received a referral for a mental health evaluation at anytime during his incarceration, three prisoners were evaluated within one month of their deaths and assessed as a low risk for suicide, one prisoner was evaluated admitted to a higher level of mental health care and one prisoner was assessed as a medium risk for suicide and placed in a mental health unit for dually diagnosed mentally ill and developmental disabled prisoners.

(h) Details on the department's responses to each suicide, including immediate on-site responses and subsequent internal investigations:

- In all six cases emergency medical response was immediately initiated by custody staff upon discovery of prisoner and recognition of a suicide attempt. Health care staff at each facility were immediately notified and in each case responded to the emergency. Per protocol, local emergency medical services were also contacted and responded to the facility. Four of the prisoners were pronounced dead at the facility, two prisoners were pronounced dead at the hospital and all six cases were transported off the facility to hospitals.
- All cases were the subject of critical incident reports and reviews at the local level and Central Office CFA administrative level. Each case underwent mortality review at the Regional Health Care level and the Statewide Mortality Review committee.

(i) A description of any monitoring and psychiatric interventions that had been undertaken prior to the prisoner's suicide, including any changes in placement or mental health care:

- Of the six cases, two cases were on mental health program caseloads and one of those had recently been transferred to a higher level of care. Both prisoners were receiving psychotropic medications and therapy.

(j) Whether the prisoner had previously attempted suicide:

- Four of the prisoners had no documented history of suicide attempt in the past. In two cases there was a history of prior attempt; one within nine years of the suicide and one within six years of death.